

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 24 AUG 49

SUBJECT Fireproof Brick and Porcelain Factory

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- 25X1 1. The largest fireproof brick and porcelain factory in Yugoslavia lies due north of Bukulja Mountain and 1.8 kilometers northwest of Arandelovac, by the narrow-gauge railroad and the Arandelovac-Valjevo highway. Before the war, Yugoslavia had only one small fireproof brick plant at Celje, and as a result most of Yugoslavia's fireproof brick requirements were imported. To supply the enlarged metallurgical industries, Yugoslav Government authorities selected Arandelovac as the site for construction of a fireproof brick works, because of the availability of essential raw materials nearby, an unlimited supply of china clay at Vrbica and coal at Orasac. The china clay was found to be of first quality on the basis of experimental tests made in Italy, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia. Although construction of the factory was started in 1947, very little progress was made until 1948, when all previous work was torn down, and building was resumed according to new plans prepared by GLISIC, an architect employed at the Technical Bureau of Serbia. The factory was built by "Sumadija", a construction firm in Kragujevac, under supervision of the firm's director, Engr. Jovan BELIC, assisted by chief engineer, Mihailo MAKSIMOVIC, 25X1 and the personnel clerk 25X1 from Arandelovac. A total of 150 workers including a number of political prisoners were employed and some members of the local population were also pressed into service. The factory was completed in the latter part of 1948, and production started early in 1949. Some machinery and equipment ordered from Czechoslovakia have not yet been received. A Radio Belgrade broadcast of 17 July 1949 specifically charged Czechoslovakia with failure to deliver industrial machinery to the Arandelovac brickworks.
- 25X1 2. The Milanovac-Arandelovac-Valjevo narrow-gauge railroad will probably be converted to a standard gauge track. Meanwhile, engineering experts have been trying to solve the problem of a local shortage of water, and have found that large expenditures will be necessary to assure the brickworks of an adequate water supply. At present, the factory produces only fireproof bricks. Output is small because of an electric power shortage and because the brickworks does not receive its coal supply regularly. Workers are employed in three shifts. There are a few skilled workers, and a number of local residents have been recruited as "shock-workers".

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Lay Out of Charoette Brickworks "Partisan" at Arandelovac

1. Administration building, a two story stone building with a "salonite" roof, 60 x 15 meters.
2. Main factory building, 300 x 56 meters.
3. Engine house and coal bunker, 70 x 20 meters.
4. Warehouse for china clay, 150 x 20 meters.
5. Laboratory, 25 x 10 meters.
6. Warehouse for finished products, 200 x 20 meters. The building, formerly used as a mess hall and workers' dormitory, contains the workshops. In front of this building is a narrow-gauge industrial track.
7. Overhead cable car line, now under construction, to the Orasac colliery, a distance of six kilometers.
8. Overhead cable car line to Vrbica china clay mine, which is almost completed.

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